

Application No. : **10/773,757**
Filing Date : **February 6, 2004**
Final Office Action : **November 2, 2007**

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended) A compression post for a shear wall positioned on a structural support, the compression post comprising:

a plate having a first surface mountable to a lower end bottom surface of an end post of a shear wall, the first surface of the plate having dimensions selected to conform to the lower end bottom surface of the end post, the plate having a second surface generally parallel to the first surface; and

an extended portion positioned generally perpendicular to the second surface of the plate, the extended portion having at least one dimension selected to fit through a hole in a mudsill of the shear wall and having wall, the extended portion having an exposed end displaced from the second surface of the plate by a length selected to conform to a thickness of the mudsill such that when the compression post is mounted to the end post of the shear wall and the shear wall is mounted on a structural support, the exposed end of the extended portion rests on the structural support and forces applied to the compression post by the end post are communicated via the plate and the extended portion to the structural support.

Claim 2 (original) The compression post of Claim 1, wherein the extended portion is secured to the plate.

Claim 3 (original) The compression post of Claim 1, wherein the extended portion is secured to the plate by at least one weld.

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Claim 4 (original) The compression post of Claim 1, wherein the extended portion is secured to the plate by press fitting an end of the extended portion into a recess in the plate.

Claim 5 (original) The compression post of Claim 1, wherein:

one end of the extended portion is threaded;
the plate includes a threaded bore; and
the threaded end of the extended portion is engageable with the threaded bore to secure the extended portion to the plate.

Claim 6 (original) The compression post of Claim 1, further comprising:

an endcap on at least one end of the extended portion, the endcap having a bore there through;
a threaded bore in the plate; and
a bolt sized to extend through the bore of the endcap, the bolt having a threaded end engageable with the threaded bore in the plate to secure the extended portion to the plate.

Claim 7 (original) The compression post of Claim 1, wherein the extended portion and the plate comprise a cast unitary body.

Claim 8 (original) The compression post of Claim 1, wherein the extended portion is cylindrical and the at least one dimension is an outside diameter.

Claims 9–17 (canceled)